

What is Claimed is:

Sub B2 1. A golf ball, comprising:

a core;

an inner cover layer formed over the core, and

an outer cover layer formed over the inner cover layer, the outer cover layer having a Shore D hardness of no more than 55, the golf ball having a PGA compression of 100 or less and a coefficient of restitution of at least 0.770.

2. A golf ball according to claim 1, wherein said outer cover layer has a Shore D hardness of no more than 50.

C 2 3. A golf ball according to claim 2, wherein said ball has a PGA compression of 90 or less.

4. A golf ball according to claim 1, wherein said inner cover layer has a Shore D hardness of at least 60.

5. A golf ball according to claim 1, wherein the outer cover layer comprises an ionomeric resin, more than 75 wt % of the ionomeric resin consisting of one or more copolymers, each of which is formed from (a) an olefin having 2 to 8 carbon atoms, (b) an unsaturated monomer of the acrylate ester class having from 1 to 21 carbon atoms, and (c) an acid which includes at least one member selected from the

group consisting of α , β -ethylenically unsaturated mono- or dicarboxylic acids with a portion of the acid being neutralized with cations.

3 ~~6~~. A golf ball according to claim 1, wherein said golf ball has a cut resistance of at least 3.

a ~~4~~ ¹ ~~7~~. A golf ball according to claim ~~4~~, wherein the acid is at least one member selected from the group consisting of acrylic acid and methacrylic acid.

aB ⁵ ~~8~~. A golf ball according to claim ~~4~~, wherein the olefin is ethylene.

a ~~Sub B~~ ⁷ ~~9~~. A golf ball according to claim ~~4~~, wherein the ~~ionomer~~ ^{ionomeric} resin contains at least 80 wt % of said one or more copolymers.

a ~~5~~ ⁵ ~~10~~. A golf ball according to claim ~~4~~, wherein the ~~ionomer~~ ^{ionomeric} resin contains at least 90 wt % of said one or more copolymers.

⁸ ~~11~~. A golf ball according to claim 1, wherein the golf ball has a coefficient of restitution of at least 0.780.

⁹ ~~12~~. A golf ball according to claim 1, wherein the ball has a spin factor of at least 3.0.

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~~13.~~ A golf ball according to claim 1, wherein the ball has a spin factor of at least 5.0.

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~~14.~~ A golf ball according to claim 1, wherein the ball has a spin factor ^{of} at least 8.0.

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~~15.~~ A golf ball according to claim 1, wherein said inner cover layer comprises at least one member selected from the group consisting of ionomers, ionomer/non-ionomer blends, polyesters ^{and} polyurethanes.

16. A golf ball according to claim 1, wherein the inner cover layer has a Shore D hardness of at least 65.

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~~17.~~ A golf ball according to claim 1, wherein the outer cover layer has a thickness of about 0.01 - 0.10 inches.

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~~18.~~ A golf ball according to claim 1, wherein the inner cover layer has a thickness of about 0.01 - 0.10 inches.

Sub B4 19. A golf ball, comprising:

a core,

an inner cover layer formed over said core, and

an outer cover layer formed over said inner cover layer, said outer cover layer having a Shore D hardness of no more than about 50, the golf ball having a PGA compression of 90 or less and a coefficient of restitution of at least 0.780.

a. ²¹
~~20~~. A golf ball according to claim ²⁰~~19~~, wherein the acid is at least one member selected from the group consisting of acrylic acid and methacrylic acid.

a. ²²
~~21~~. A golf ball according to claim ²⁰~~19~~, wherein the olefin is ethylene.

a. ²³
~~22~~. A golf ball according to claim ²⁰~~19~~, wherein the ^{ionomeric}~~ionomer~~ resin contains at least 80 wt % of said one or more copolymers.

~~23~~. A golf ball according to claim 19, wherein the ionomer resin contains at least 90 wt % of said one or more copolymers.

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~~24~~. A golf ball according to claim ¹⁹~~19~~, wherein the golf ball has a cut resistance of at least 3.

25. A golf ball according to claim 19, wherein said outer cover layer has a Shore D hardness of no more than 48.

26. A golf ball according to claim 19, wherein said inner cover layer molded over said core has a Shore D hardness of at least 60.

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~~27.~~ A golf ball according to claim 19, wherein the ball has a spin factor of at least 3.0.

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~~28.~~ A golf ball according to claim 19, wherein the ball has a spin factor of at least 5.0.

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~~29.~~ A golf ball according to claim 19, wherein the ball has a spin factor of at least 8.0.

30. A golf ball according to claim 19, wherein said inner cover layer comprises at least one member selected from the group consisting of ionomers, ionomer/non-ionomer blends, polyesters and polyurethanes.

31. A golf ball according to claim 19, wherein the inner cover layer has a Shore D hardness of at least 65.

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~~32.~~ A golf ball according to claim 19, wherein the outer cover layer has a thickness of about 0.01 - 0.10 inches.

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~~33.~~ A golf ball according to claim 19, wherein the inner cover layer has a thickness of about 0.01 - 0.10 inches.

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~~34.~~ A golf ball comprising:

a solid, non-wound core having a PGA compression of 55 - 65 and a coefficient of restitution of 0.760 or greater,

2 thermoplastic

B *K* an inner cover layer formed over the core, the inner cover layer having a Shore D hardness of at least 65, the core with the inner cover layer formed thereon having a PGA compression of 80 or less and a coefficient of restitution of 0.790 or greater, and

an outer cover layer formed over the inner cover layer, the outer cover layer having a Shore D hardness of no more than 50, the golf ball having a coefficient of restitution of at least 0.780.

35. A golf ball according to claim 34, wherein the inner cover layer has a Shore D hardness of at least 68 and the outer cover layer has a Shore D hardness of no more than 48.

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36 A golf ball according to claim *35*, wherein said ball has a coefficient of restitution of at least 0.790.

Pub B5 37. A method of making a golf ball having a core, an inner cover layer and an outer cover layer, comprising the steps of:

obtaining a golf ball core,

forming an inner cover layer over the core, and

forming an outer cover layer over the inner cover layer, the outer cover layer having a Shore D hardness of no more than about 55, the golf ball having a PGA compression of 100 or less and a coefficient of restitution of at least 0.770.